



**March 26, 2010**

Mark your calendar for **Mayor John Schroer's State of the City** presentation **April 21 at 7:30 a.m.** at Liberty Hall in the Factory. This presentation is free and a light breakfast will be provided. This will be a multi-media presentation and also feature booths from every department within the City. We're using this venue as an opportunity to educate citizens about the services of City Government.

**Other big dates in April and May:**

**Dog Park Opening, K9 Corral, April 12 at The Park at Harlinsdale** 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.  
Dogs are welcome at the opening, there will be fun giveaways to the first 100 guests.

**Arbor/Earth Day April 17<sup>th</sup> at Pinkerton Park**

The event begins at 10:00 a.m. and will feature entertainment, food, tree sapling giveaway, demonstrations and tree climbing and zip line for the entire family.

**Franklin Police Building Grand Opening May 15<sup>th</sup>**

A ceremony will begin at 9:00 a.m. with an open house tour taking place until 2:00 p.m. This is a Saturday, so bring the family and show off Franklin's newest government facility.

The City of Franklin has applied for the **Google Ultra-high speed pilot program**. Google is offering a unique opportunity wherein they will build and test ultra-high speed broadband networks in a small number of trial locations across the country. The offering will deliver Internet speeds more than 100 times faster than what most Americans have access to today with 1 gigabit per second, fiber-to-the-home connections. Google will offer service at a competitive price to at least 50,000, and potentially up to 500,000 people. This is a highly competitive process with many cities across the country seeking this opportunity. The City of Topeka, Kansas even changed its name to Google, Kansas for a month to try to impress the folks at Google! My thanks to MIT Director **Fred Banner**, **Carl Alexander** from IT, and **Andrew Orr** from Planning and Sustainability for their efforts on the application. (By the way, I don't think Franklin needs to change its name to impress anyone!)

Last year, the **Franklin Police Department** hosted a media event to announce their new anonymous text tip initiative. The cutting edge capability was the first of its kind in Tennessee, and garnered national media attention. The Department recently entered that press event in a contest with the **National Association of Government Communicators**, and has won a Blue Pencil/Gold Screen Award. We'll find out if they got 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup> place on May 17 when the announcement is made at the national conference in Washington, D.C.! **Congratulations to Sergeant Charles Warner, Lieutenant Rob Lenters, Chief Jackie Moore and Assistant Chief David Rahinsky.**

The **Parks Department** is on deck to appear on the Hispanic Radio program on **La Ley** April 5 and 12. **Anna Shuford, Deanna Scheffel and Todd Snackenberg** and **Andrew Orr from Planning**

**and Sustainability** will appear on the show with our in-house translators **Mary Ann Buentello** from Administration and **Norma Barones** from City Court. Thanks to Mary Ann and Norma for going above and beyond to help us reach out to Franklin's Hispanic community.

Don't forget to fill out the **customer service survey**. As local government employees, our main focus is, and should be, the service we provide to the residents of our community. Sometimes we can overlook, or take for granted, the service we provide to each other. The purpose of the following survey is to determine the level of service that we are providing to our other team members. The survey will be available March 17th – March 28th at this website: <http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/CZ7W7HK>. Please respond honestly to each of the questions and provide constructive comments.

Have a great weekend!

***Excellence, Innovation, Teamwork, Integrity, Action-Oriented***